

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

ROUTING SLIP

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Remarks

FOR YOUR DIRECT RESPONSE PLEASE.

STAT

Executive Secretary
June 85

Date

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HOOVER INSTITUTION

ON WAR, REVOLUTION AND PEACE

Stanford, California 94305-2323



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29 May 1985

Honorable William Casey
Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

Would you please send me a copy of your comments, which were discussed in the enclosed item from FPI International Report (vol. 5, no. 1, 22 May 1985, p. 8).

Thank you in advance for this courtesy.

Sincerely,

Richard F. Staar
Senior Fellow

RFS:bdh
encl. (1)



P-304

MAY 22, 1985

to take part in NATO maneuvers on the grounds that NATO commanders accept the views of Turkey rather than Greece on how the defense of the Aegean should be divided between the two countries.

S.W. Europe nations compromise on jet fighter

The defense ministers of five West

European countries have reached a compromise on the specifications of a jet fighter to be produced jointly for the 1990s, the European Fighter Aircraft.

The \$30 billion project is seen by the five — France, Britain, Italy, West Germany and Spain — as highly profitable for their aircraft industries, which will lessen dependence on U.S. warplanes.

Officials involved in the talks said

interim accords had been reached that laid down ranges on key questions of the plane's weight and engine thrust. Final agreements have not yet been made and different views still prevail, they said.

British officials said the French had agreed to consider existing British and U.S. engines, in addition to a French one, for temporary use in prototypes until the EFA's own engine is developed.

CIA head says Sandinistas are beachhead for Soviet subversion

The Soviet Union and Cuba "have established and are consolidating a beachhead on the American continent" as a launching pad to subvert the rest of Central and Latin America, CIA head William Casey said last week.

He said the Salvadoran insurgency will be re-invigorated once the Sandinistas have been able to eliminate the Nicaraguan guerrillas' armed resistance.

Among factors indicating that the Sandinistas are working to solidify a Soviet-style Marxist-Leninist regime in Nicaragua, Casey cited the establishment of the Directorate of State Security to control all forms of dissent. According to CIA estimates, he said, the directorate is staffed by, among others, 400 Cubans, 70 Soviets, 40 to 50 East Germans and 20 to 25 Bulgarians. "There are Soviet advisers at every level of the secret police," he added.

Casey also said the Soviets are developing capabilities in Nicaragua to threaten the Panama Canal in the short term and Mexico in a somewhat longer term. He said the two primary targets in the Soviets' quest for power worldwide are "the oil fields of the Middle East and the isthmus between North and South America [the Panama Canal]."

Meanwhile, El Salvador's President Jose Napoleon Duarte, during his visit to the United States last week, said that Congress' refusal to aid Nicaraguan guerrillas would allow the Sandinista government to continue aiding Salvadoran leftist guerrillas.

Duarte said U.S. support for the *contras* had been successful in limiting the flow of arms from Nicaragua to the insurgents in his country.

In another development, Napoleon Romero, a Salvadoran guerrilla commander who surrendered to the U.S.-backed government, said the 10,000-man Salvadoran rebel army receives more than 70 percent of its arms from Nicaragua. He said the rest is bought on the black market or taken from fallen government troops.

"We need from 20,000 to 30,000 rounds of ammunition and some 5,000 sticks of TNT every month," Romero said. "All of that comes from Nicaragua."

THE AMERICAS



In addition, documents taken from a Salvadoran rebel leader captured last month show that the rebels are being trained in sabotage and guerrilla warfare in Soviet-bloc countries.

The papers taken from Nidia Diaz, a top official in the Central American Revolutionary Workers Party — a Marxist group that is one of the five factions in the Farabundo Marti Revolutionary Front — showed she "was planning to travel to Vietnam this year and that she was awaiting rebel fighters to return from training in Bulgaria, the Soviet Union, East Germany and Cuba," a Salvadoran official said. "Her journal showed she was waiting for a highly trained explosives team to return."

U.S. sends military advisers to Costa Rica

The United States has sent about 20 military advisers to Costa Rica to coordinate the first large-scale U.S. military training program in the country.

Costa Rican Security Minister Benjamin Piza said the advisers will be joining four others who are already stationed in Costa Rica directing the construction of shooting ranges, obstacle courses and barracks.

The advisers will teach some 700 civil guards in "counterinsurgency techniques," said a government official. Costa Rica, which has no army, now is protected by its 5,000-man Civil Guard.

The official said an "anti-guerrilla commando team" will be trained to prevent leftist rebels from other Central American nations from entering Costa Rica.

Tensions along Honduran-Nicaraguan border escalate

Tensions along the Honduras-Nicaraguan border continued to escalate, with accusations by Honduras that the Sandinistas have massed 10,000 troops, supported by artillery, on its side.

The Honduran army declared a state of military emergency along the western part of its frontier with Nicaragua.

Honduran troops were reportedly sent to the emergency zone "to repel new invasions by Nicaraguan soldiers" into Honduras in pursuit of anti-Sandinista guerrillas encamped across the border. In one such incursion, about 200 Nicaraguan soldiers penetrated up to 25 miles inside Honduras to attack 300 guerrillas of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, Honduran military spokesmen said. At least 50 guerrillas and 40 Nicaraguan soldiers were killed in the combat, diplomatic sources said.

Sandinista troops recently ambushed a detachment of Honduran soldiers patrolling the border, killing one Honduran soldier and wounding four others, according to the Honduran military.

In another development, Honduras said it is prepared to "demilitarize" its border with Nicaragua, dismantle guerrilla camps near the border and even oust the guerrillas from its territory, provided all Central American nations, including Nicaragua, agree to Contadora peace proposals. It is unlikely, however, that a peace accord will be reached soon.

On May 22, President Reagan told visiting Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova that the United States would take "appropriate measures" to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Honduras "against communist aggression."

Administration officials said the commitment to Honduras was actually a reaffirmation of obligations already included in the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, known as the Rio Treaty, and the Charter of the Organization of American States.

Reagan said the two nations shared "serious concern over the threat to the entire region posed by the communist Sandinista regime in Nicaragua and its Cuban and Soviet supporters."